

Message Text

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67

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 CPR-01

EB-07 AID-05 OMB-01 SAM-01 ACDA-05 /076 W

----- 009871

R 061126Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2345

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 21085

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR,OVIP,TH

SUBJ: THAI FOREIGN MINISTER'S REQUEST FOR AN APPOINTMENT WITH
THE SECRETARY

REF: A. STATE 234707; B. BANGKOK 20957; C. BANGKOK 20181

1. DURING THE CHARGE'S CALL ON CHATCHAI OCTOBER 2,
CHATCHAI MENTIONED HIS REQUEST FOR A CALL ON THE SECRETARY.
HE SAID THAT HE HAD NO SPECIAL SUBJECTS TO RAISE. WE BELIEVE
THAT A GENERAL DISCUSSION WILL PROBABLY HAVE A GREATER IMPACT
ON CHATCHAI.

2. CHATCHAI DID MENTION CHAGRIN AT U.S. PLANS TO DISPOSE
OF VNAF/KAF AIRCRAFT LOCATED IN THAILAND BY GIVING THEM TO
THE THAI ARMED FORCES AND TO OTHER FRIENDLY COUNTRIES. HE
SUGGESTED THAT THIS MOVE WAS COMPLICATING THAILAND'S EFFORTS
TO NORMALIZE RELATIONS WITH THE COMMUNIST GOVERNMENTS IN
VIET-NAM AND CAMBODIA. THIS SUBJECT WILL PROBABLY COME UP
IN THE MEETING.

3. DURING AN AIRPORT PRESS CONFERENCE AS HE WAS ENPLANING
FOR TOKYO OCTOBER 4, CHATCHAI SAID THAT HE WOULD WANT TO
DISCUSS MILITARY AND ECONOMIC AID IN WASHINGTON. HIS MAIN,
AND FAMILIAR, COMPLAINT IS THAT AFTER YEARS OF US ASSISTANCE
THAILAND IS NO NEARER THAN IT EVER WAS TO BECOMING MILITARILY
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SELF-SUFFICIENT. CHATCHAI CITED "LIGHT WEAPONS" AS A CASE

IN POINT. THIS BUGABOO WILL PROBABLY ALSO SURFACE IN DISCUSSIONS WITH THE SECRETARY.

4. THIS SAME COMPLAINT HAS RECENTLY BEEN VOICED BY BOTH PRIME MINISTER KHUKRIT AND DEFENSE MINISTER PRAMAN. WE ARE PREPARING MATERIAL FOR PRESENTATION TO THEM SHOWING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE US TO THAI TRAINING AND SELF-SUFFICIENCY PROJECTS. WE WILL ALSO GIVE THIS MATERIAL TO CHATCHAI AND POUCH COPIES TO DEPARTMENT.

5. WE WILL BE CHECKING WITH CHATCHAI'S INTIMATES AND OTHER KNOWLEDGEABLE OFFICIALS IN THE DAYS AHEAD TO GET A CLEARER PICTURE OF CHATCHAI'S DESIRERATE.
MASTERS

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